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INFORMATION REPORT REPORT

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SUBJECT Ports of Ventspils and Riga.

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1. The following was noted in Ventspils

a. The harbor is a real Soviet naval base. The following naval vessels were observed in dock there:

12 small destroyers

1 combined submarine minelayer and torpedo ship (sic) 50X1-HUM

1 submarine (old type)

2 ammunition and store ships (about 800 tons each)

10 torpedo boats (carrying 2 torpedoes)

b. Commercial activity included

one Soviet-German ship discharging cement and general cargo, loading mainly cattle cake.

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c. In the upper harbor, there were four 5-ton cranes and one 45-ton crane. In the lower harbor there were four 5-ton cranes

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d. The quays were in a bad condition.

e. Patrol vessels contacted shipping about five to six miles outside the harbor entrance.

2. The harbor at Riga was in splendid condition. The following was noted in Riga.

a. About twenty 5-ton cranes were seen but there were more up the river. The exact number is unknown, but there were approximately six or eight and one of these was of 45 tons.

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b. Very few ships arrived and departed in the harbor during a 24-hour period.

c. No warships were seen in Riga, but up the river there is a naval station where there are sometimes as many as nine or ten submarines and as many as twelve small patrol destroyers, also a number of small boats including torpedo boats.

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3.

five

Soviet submarines were sighted, and followed on a westerly course from Kolkasrags Lighthouse to Buoy 2; from Buoy 2 they steered NW, possibly towards the Estonian coast (sic). Later a larger man-of-war appeared from astern and followed the five submarines.

4. All submarines sighted were small types except the one in Ventspils (para. 1a above), which was, as stated, a very old type.

Comment: In view of the position of Ovisi (57-34N, 21-43E) and Kolkasrags (57-45N, 22-35E), it is probable that the observations described in para. 3 were made while enroute from Ventspils to Riga.

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